

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 AID-20

OMB-01 EUR-25 /116 R

DRAFTED BY OASD/PA - CAPT S. WRIGHT:(EK

APPROVED BY P - JJSISCO

NEA/EGY - G N ANDERSON

NEA/P - J BRIGGS

S/PRS - GVEST

PM - T STERN

NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S - MR. LUERS

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R 201650Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USCINCEUR

CSAF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCUSNAVEUR

CSA WASHDC

CMC WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

USIA WASHDC

COMSIXTHFLT

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

COMINWARFARE CHARLESTON SC

MAC SCOTT AFB ILL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 055515

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PFOR, EG, US

SUBJECT: SUEZ CANAL MINE COUNTERMEASURES OPERATION

1. NOW THAT INITIAL PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT ON US PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN MADE, CONSIDERABLE MEDIA INTEREST HAS ALREADY BEEN SHOWN IN PLANS FOR USG MINESWEEPING OPERATION IN THE WATERS OF THE SUEZ CANAL. FEELING HERE IS THAT WE SHOULD KEEP THE OPERATION OPEN TO PRESS/PUBLIC INTEREST WHILE BEING CONSISTENT WITH GOE DESIRES.

2. THEREFORE, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE PLANNING AT THIS END AS WELL AS BY USCINCEUR, REQUEST EMBASSY CAIRO SECURE GOE WORKING LEVEL AGREEMENT ON OPEN POLICY RESPONSIVE TO PRESS INTEREST. ALONG THESE LINES, PRESS HAS ALREADY SHOWN INTEREST IN COVERING AIRLIFT BY ACCOMPANYING AIRCRAFT FROM NORFOLK OR CHARLESTON TO MIDDLE EAST. IN ADDITION, ANTICIPATE A NEED TO ESTABLISH AN INFORMATION BUREAU ON SITE TO ACCOMMODATE INTERNATIONAL PRESS INTEREST IN COVERING MINESWEEPING OPERATIONS ON THE SCENE, I.E., ANSWERING QUESTIONS, PHOTOGRAPHY, DOCUMENTATION, ETC. ALSO NEED ARRANGEMENTS WITH GOE FOR WAIVER OF VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR U.S. PRESS CARRYING U.S. PASSPORTS AND IDENTIFIED BY DOD THROUGH U.S. EMBASSY.

3. TENTATIVE PLANS ARE PROCEEDING TO SUPPORT MEDIA AS INDICATED ABOVE, BUT NEED EMBASSY CAIRO'S CONCURRENCE EARLIEST TO MARRY MORE SUBSTANTIVE PUBLIC AFFAIRS PLANNING WITH OPERATION PLANS. ONCE GOE AGREEMENT ACQUIRED, EUCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF WILL ESTABLISH LIAISON WITH EMBASSY TO ARRANGE DETAILS.

4. FYI: DEPARTMENT MADE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT AT 1200 EDT, 18 MARCH 1974: QUOTE AT THE REQUEST OF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT, THE US GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO ASSIST IN SWEEPING MINES IN THE WATERS OF THE SUEZ CANAL. THE US GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO AGREED TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ADVICE AND TRAINING TO EGYPTIAN PERSONNEL RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEARING UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE IN THE CANAL AND ON ITS BANKS. UNQUOTE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPLOSIVES, THE PRESS, INTERNATIONAL CANALS, DREDGING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** blochd0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** CAPT S. WRIGHT:(EK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SUEZ CANAL MINE COUNTERMEASURES OPERATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EG, US  
**To:** CAIRO MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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